



By the King.

● A Proclamation concerning Building, in  
and about London, and Westminster.



He Kings Maiestie, perceiuing the manifold inconueniences daily growing by increase of new Buildings in the Cities of London and Westminster, and the Suburbs and Liberties of the same, whereby the people increasing to so great numbers, are not well to be gouerned by the wonted Officers, the price of Victuals is much inhaunted, the health of his Subjects inhabiting in the Cities and places aforesayd, or repairing thither, much endangered, and many other good Townes and Borowes are impleaded and in their trades much decayed; And also perceiuing the generall commodity which would grow to the said Cities, and the Liberties and Suburbs of the same, if Building with Brick and Stone there, were more vsed, whereby Timber also would be greatly preferred and spared, which is now in all parts much wasted and growne very skant; And his Maiestie likewise considering how much it would grace and beautifie the said Cities, (being the principall places of this Kingdome, for the intertainment and resort of forreine Princes, and their Embassadors, which from time to time doe come into this Realme,) if an Uniformitie were kept in the sayd Buildings, and the foreparts or forefronts of the houses, standing and looking towards the streets, at the least were builded with Brick and Stone, which is both more durable & safe against fire, and also by experience is found to be of little more charge then the building with Timber: Doeth therefore straitly prohibite and forbid all persons whatsoeuer, that they nor any of them shall or doe at any time after the first day of October next ensuing the date hereof, build, erect, or set vp, or cause to be builded, erected or set vp within the Cities of London or Westminster, or the Suburbs thereof, or within the distance of two miles to be taken from any of the gates of the said City of London, any maner of Buildings, be they dwelling houses, Stables, Shops, Stalls, Sheds, or any other Building whatsoeuer, except it be vpon the foundation of a former dwelling house, Stable, Shop, Stall, Shed, or other like building respectiue, or in or vpon some inner Court or yard of a dwelling house, onely for an enlargement of the said dwelling house, for one onely habitation as it was before. And his Maiestie doeth further straitly prohibit & forbid all persons whatsoeuer, that they nor any of them shall or doe at any time after the sayd first day of October next ensuing,



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build, erect, or set vp, or cause to be builded, erected, or set vp, vpon any olde foundation, any house, habitation, or shop, or whole stoy of any building, ioyning vpon any street or streetes of the sayd Cities of London and <sup>Westminster</sup>, or the Liberties or Suburbs of the same, or within two Miles to be taken from any of the gates of the sayd City of London, except the sayd house, habitation, shoppe, or storie so to be builded as is aforesaid, or at the least the forefront, or for apart thereof standing, fronting, or looking towards the street or streetes be wholly built of bricke, or of bricke and stone, or of one, or both of them: Nor shall make any encrochment in or vpon the streets either aboue or vpon the ground, nor shall erect make or put out any Butties, outwindowes, trussing ouer, or ouerhanging of wals or windowes towards the street (other then windowes commonly called Cant windowes, as hereafter is limited, reaching one foot and a halfe and not aboue from the wals of the house into the street,) vpon paine, that all and euery person and persons offending in the premises, or any of them shall incurre his Maiesties high displeasure, and such paines, penalties, and imprisonment, as by the lawes of this Realme, can or may bee inflicted vpon the Offendours therein, for their contempt and disobedience in that behalfe.

And his Maiestie is neuertheless graciously pleased, that (for encouragement of such as shall be confor:mable, and for a moderate course to be held, for the ease and benefite of such as shall build with bricke as aforesaid) It shall and may be lawfull for them to make the doores and windowes of euery such building of wood or timber for sauing of roome and conuenience of shops. And likewise that euery person that shall erect any house as aforesaid, shall be allowed, one or more Cant windowes of a foote and a halfe into the street, so as they doe bulde vp right, taking the foundation of their Cant, from the ground to the top, or from the first stoy at their election without Butties, out windowes, or trussing ouer, or ouerhanging as aforesaide. And his Maiestie doeth straightly forbid all Carpenters, labourers, and workemen whatsoener, that they nor any of them doe attempt or doe any labour or worke in or about the building or setting vp of any houses within the said cities and places aforesaid, contrary to this his highnesse proclamation, vpon paine of such punishment and imprisonment, as by the lawes of this Realme may or can bee inflicted vpon them in that behalfe. And his Maiestie doth also command the Lord Maior and Aldermen of London, and all his Maiesties Iustices of peace hauing authoritie within the said Cities or the limits and places aforesaid, That they and euery of them respectiuelly, doe cause this his Maiesties commandement to be straightly obserued, and duely executed according to the tenor and true meaning thereof without delay.

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Prouided alwayes neuertheless, and his Maiesties pleasure is, that such part of this his highnesse proclamation as concerneth building with bricke or stone, shall not extend to any houses, habitations, shoppes, or stories of buildings, which from and after the said first day of October next comming shall be builded or erected in any Alley or Alieyes, or other so obscure or meane a Lane as is not fit for such building.

Giuen at our honour of Hampton Court the tenth day of September, in the ninth yeere of Our Reigne of Great Britaine, France and Ireland.

God saue the King.

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*Anno Dom. 1611.*